



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON DC

5 Dec 05

HQ USAF/XO  
1630 Air Force Pentagon  
Washington DC 20330-1630

Civil Air Patrol National Commander  
Major General (CAP) Antonio J. Pineda  
1101 NW 114 Ave  
Plantation FL 33323

Dear Major General (CAP) Pineda

As this extraordinary year of humanitarian need draws to a close, we in AF/XO wanted to take the time to express our gratitude to the volunteer members of the Civil Air Patrol for the rapid execution and keen professionalism demonstrated by the Air Force Auxiliary in response to this year's hurricanes.

The support provided in response to Hurricane Katrina was especially noteworthy. While certainly not surprised, we were gratified and impressed by our Auxiliary's professionalism, skill, and wide-ranging capability. Every talent was demonstrated during the over 900 sorties conducting SAR, air reconnaissance, air transport of key personnel, and digital imaging of key infrastructure. Additionally, the unprecedented success the Auxiliary achieved while conducting full door-to-door searches was impressive by any measure.

The Air Force Auxiliary continues to stand above the rest in their dedication and compassion for others. Know that all the Auxiliary personnel, equipment, and supplies provided were in direct support to a grateful nation. Please pass our heartfelt appreciation to the Air Force Auxiliary team. We fly and fight as a team, and in this case, the "fight at hand" was to save lives. We are proud to serve with the best of the best!

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carol H. Chandler", is located below the word "Sincerely".

CAROL H. CHANDLER, Lt Gen, USAF  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
Air and Space Operations